PRESENTATION REPORT

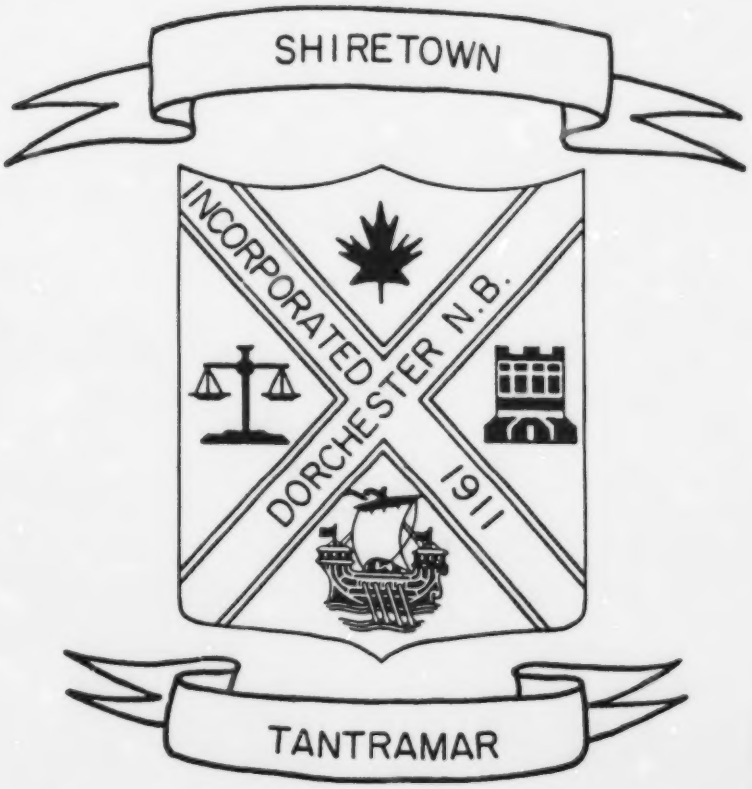
JANUARY 1991

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

SOUTH EAST ECONOMIC COMMISSION INC.

PRESENTATION REPORT

JANUARY 1991



Presented by the South East Economic Commission as requested by the Village of Dorchester, January 1991.

93-00374/

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DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The South East Economic Commission was created in 1980 with its main mandate to promote regional economic development while fostering an environment favorable to entrepreneurial spirit.

The Commission is sustained by the Towns of Shediac and Sackville, the Villages of St. Joseph, Port Elgin, Dorchester and Cap-Pelé and by the Province of New Brunswick.

We are convinced that any new facility designed to house female inmates in the Atlantic Region should be located in the Village of Dorchester and we are pleased to submit a complete report which supports this claim.

This report was funded by the South East Economic Commission and before preparing the brief a number of officials and individuals were interviewed in order to obtain their reactions. Politicians, including Premier Frank McKenna, provincial MLA's and MP's and the mayors of towns, cities and villages throughout the region have thrown their support behind the effort to have Dorchester chosen as the location of any new facility to house female felons.

We have attempted to show federal government officials that Dorchester is the appropriate location and we are prepared to defend any statement contained in the report.

The executive of the South East Economic Commission is unanimous in its support of Dorchester as the location of the proposed new prison and of having the enclosed report prepared and presented.

A number of letters have been enclosed to show the level of support for Dorchester and many point up the main reasons why the Shiretown of Westmorland County should be selected as the site for a regional female prison.

From our research we must conclude there are few arguments, if any, that would detract from having Dorchester named as the site of the proposed new facility.

On the other hand, there are numerous benefits which are spelled out in detail in the report. However, a few of these would include:

Location - Dorchester is the geographical centre of the Maritimes and, as such, would be a convenient location to reach from anywhere in Atlantic Canada.

Cost - Property is already owned by the penitentiary service and has been provided with water and sewerage utilities. Research shows there are at least two ideal sites on which such a prison could be erected.

Health Care - The Correctional Service of Canada has announced that Dorchester is to become the regional psychiatric centre within two years. The City of Moncton offers a complete range of medical, psychological and psychiatric care while the new facilities in Sackville - the hospital and medical clinic - offer state of the art care. Moncton also offers

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

hospitals for the treatment of both Francophones and Anglophones.

Education - Mount Allison University in Sackville has enjoyed a long and fruitful relationship with the penitentiaries in Dorchester. University of Moncton and the Community College in Dieppe provide instruction in French while the Moncton Community College offers English training and has had a long relationship with Dorchester Penitentiary. The Memramcook Institute also houses the staff training quarters.

Aboriginal Community - The Fort Folly Reserve is located on the fringe of Dorchester and enjoys a good relationship with the village and the penitentiary.

Community Services - Already over 100 volunteers visit the penitentiary in Dorchester on a regular basis while support is widespread with citizens' advisory committees established for both Westmorland and Dorchester.

Attitude - The citizens of Dorchester are comfortable with penitentiaries in their midst unlike those of other communities who have rejected any attempts to have one located there. Dorchester citizens have lived for over a century with jails and penitentiaries and have become fully acclimatized.

Cooperation - The Village of Dorchester and the CSC have worked closely over the years while the same may be said for the entire region, especially the area from Sackville to Moncton.

Bilingual Character - Dorchester is situated in Canada's lone bilingual province and the immediate region is capable of providing bilingual staff members. The province actively encourages second language training and the District 14 School Board, in which Dorchester is located, offers French Immersion training from Kindergarten through to high school graduation.

The South East Economnic Commission is grateful to those people who assisted in the preparation of this brief and to those who took the time to provide the information and ideas.

We would humbly request that the decision makers carefully review this report prior to making any final site selection for any facility to house female inmates in the Atlantic Region.

DORCHESTER:SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

DORCHESTER: LOGICAL SITE FOR ATLANTIC WOMEN'S PRISON

There is overwhelming and irrefutable evidence that any institution planned for the Atlantic region by the federal government to house female inmates should be located in Dorchester, New Brunswick.

This evidence is based on social, cultural, economic, political and practical grounds and the choice of any other location would, like the Renous Penitentiary, be made strictly on partisan political grounds with little consideration being given to either the inmates or staff.

It is understood that the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) proposes to construct five regional institutions to house its female inmate population. For this we applaud officials as the previous Kingston Penitentiary created many problems, not the least being logistical for families of those inmates who were residents of Western Canada, the Maritimes or Newfoundland.

Regional units to house the female inmates will offer a much more humane face to CSC as it will permit these women to serve their sentences relatively close to parents, brothers, sisters and children. And it will permit them to function in an environment to which they are somewhat familiar.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

ABUNDANCE OF RESOURCES AVAILABLE

We would first like to address the resources which have been defined as minimum for location of one of these regional prisons:

- a university or college
- a range of mental health services
- a teaching hospital
- an Aboriginal community

Dorchester has not one but two degree granting universities within a short distance. Mount Allison University in Sackville is 12 km away from Dorchester and has for many years offered courses both through its extention program as well as on-campus instruction for inmates of Dorchester Penitentiary and Westmorland Institution. It is currently providing upgrading services for Native Canadians so they may gain entrance to institutions of post-secondary learning.

University of Moncton is the Francophone university, located 25 km from Dorchester. It also has a fine working arrangement with existing penal institutions in Dorchester.

In addition, an Anglophone Community College is based in Moncton and a Francophone one in Dieppe and both have contracts with Dorchester Penitentiary to provide upgrading courses.

The Memramcook Institute, located 8 km from Dorchester, is the home of the CSC staff training centre and also offers continuing programs in second language training.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

REGIONAL TREATMENT CENTRE

By 1993, Dorchester will be the site of the Regional Treatment Centre. There will be a 50-bed psychiatric unit, which will operate an assessment program, an acute psychiatric care unit, a chronic care unit and a transitional care section. Assessment and treatment of mentally ill offenders will be part of the centre's mandate.

As stated in Volume 2, Number 3, 1990, on corrections research in FORUM, "Dorchester Penitentiary is becoming fully equipped to meet the serious challenges that the Atlantic Region faces in dealing effectively with the needs of special categories of offenders in the 1990's. The developments in Dorchester and its Psychiatric Treatment Centre will play a pivotal role in promoting activities to enhance mental health and prevent mental disorder."

There are available in Moncton trained professionals in every discipline of mental health services, many of them with years of experience in dealing with the criminal population.

The area also offers a haven for battered and abused women with a transition house located in Moncton.

Two large teaching hospitals operate in the City of Moncton. The A. J. McMaster School of Nursing functions in conjunction with the Moncton City Hospital - the Anglophone health centre - while the Francophone community is served by the Dr. Georges Dumont Hospital.

Both of these hospitals rank among the finest in the Atlantic Region and are only a few kilometers from Drochester, prepared to serve both primary linguistic groups.

The Fort Folly Indian Band moved its reserve from Beaumont to Dorchester in the 1930's. It consists of a dozen families and functions under a chief and band manager. The group is active in community affairs and has a fine relationship with both the Dorchester community and the penitentiary. Negotiations are currently underway to provide the Reserve with water and sewerage facilities by the Village.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

SITE SELECTION CRITERIA

It is noted that the Correctional Service of Canada sees the three major criteria for site selection as follows:

proximity to home communities for the majority of the women;

the availability and accessibility to community services that will support the facilities;

site acquisition costs.

In addressing these three factors we would suggest the purpose of constructing regional units is to make them more accessible to residents of each region. Placing such a unit at one end of the region would merely aggravate an already difficult situation and the only logical solution is to attempt to locate them as close to the geographical centre as possible.

While statistics indicate the majority of female crimes are committed in urban areas they also show that many of those convicted are not native to those urban centres. In other words, should the Atlantic unit be placed, for instance, in Halifax or Saint John there would be a large percentage of Atlantic area families penalized.

Dorchester is the exact geographical centre of the Maritimes. By automobile it is approximately five hours drive to the extreme points of Sydney, Yarmouth, Edmundston and Campbellton. Also, it is roughly 2 1/2 hours drive to the major urban centres of Halifax, Saint John and Fredericton.

Should the unit be placed in Halifax, it would require upwards of nine hours of highway driving for a family from the northern portions of New Brunswick to reach there. On the other hand, one in Saint John would force people in the far reaches of Nova Scotia to endure the same hardships.

In addition, the Moncton airport is only 22 km from Dorchester, closer in fact that more city airports are from the city which they serve.

It is also noted that Dorchester is conveniently located on Route 106 which has only recently been upgraded. A new four-lane Trans Canada Highway is being completed and Dorchester is expected to have direct access to it.

Therefore, in order to serve all of the people of the Atlantic region any unit to house the female inmates of the region must be centrally located and not placed otherwise simply because one city or area may, at the time, be providing the greatest number of inmates.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

NETWORK OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

During the past century an extensive network of community services have been built up to support Dorchester Penitentiary and more recently, the Westmorland Institution.

Citizens' Advisory Committees serve both institutions, working with inmate committees and administration in both advisory and liaison capacities. These highly qualified and conscientious individuals volunteer their time and talents and come from a diverse background and often travel many miles to attend meetings.

An extensive network of over 100 volunteers who visit the institutions on a regular basis has been formed. They help to ease the stress on inmates and staff by providing an outlet through various forms of recreation.

Inmates who may leave the institutions under supervision take advantage of such facilities as the swimming pool at nearby Mount Allison University while others have access to a variety of sporting and cultural activities in Moncton, Sackville and surrounding communities.

And programs are being developed whereby some of the more trusty inmates are permitted to perform community work in Dorchester and area.

The Sackville-Dorchester area is blessed with a surplus of skilled individuals who offer their advice and assistance to inmates in such a matter as arts and crafts.

There is, in fact, no limit to the availability and accessibility to community services to support facilities of this type. This has been proven time and again and both the expertise and experience is available to accommodate a third institution - this one for female offenders.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

SERVICED SITES AVAILABLE

When it comes to the matter of site acquisition costs officials should look no further than Dorchester. Two ideal sites have been identified on property already owned by the Correctional Service of Canada.

One, located on Woodlawn Road, was fully serviced by the Village of Dorchester in 1978 at a cost of over $65,000. This was done on the advice of consultants after it had been announced that a new maximum security penitentiary would be built there.

Subsequently, the penitentiary went to Renous and the Village has been left with the task of paying off the costs of this project.

It is also noted that Dorchester is conveniently located on Route 106 which has only recently been brought up to standard. A new four-lane Trans Canada Highway is being completed from the Nova Scotia border westward and should a new institution be erected on Woodlawn Avenue it is apparent that direct access to the new highway would be provided.

However, a second ideal site would be along Route 106 on a knoll which had also been recommended as the site of a new penitentiary. This location could easily be serviced with water and sewerage facilities by the Dorchester Penitentiary itself or by the Village of Dorchester as the service lines run directly in front of the property.

Therefore, it is obvious that a new institution built to house female offenders in the Atlantic region should be in Dorchester and on property already serviced and owned by the federal government. In times of fiscal restraint it would appear foolhardy to even consider any other location, especially where land prices may be exhorbitant.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

FEMALES ONCE HOUSED IN DORCHESTER

It was on June 8, 1865, that the land for Dorchester Penitentiary was purchased from the Honorable Edward Barron Chandler, one of the Fathers of Confederation. Over the years since then additional land has been obtained and today the total reserve amounts to approximately 1700 acres.

The penitentiary was founded on October 10, 1878, and on the 14th day of July, 1879, 58 male and two FEMALE prisoners were transferred from the Old Saint John Penitentiary to their new home. Two days later 57 male convicts were received from the Halifax Penitentiary while Prince Edward Island contributed six inmates in October.

New wings and cell blocks were added as required while the first wall was erected, using long logs dipped in tar. This palisade wall was replaced by a stone wall with four towers in 1912.

Dorchester Penitentiary is currently under renovation but will soon become the full-scale multi-level, multi-purpose institution as planned with a population of 225 inmates. Ultimately it will be provided with 430 cells and will include the regional psychiatric treatment centre, a medium security institution and one for special needs inmates.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

THE VILLAGE OF DORCHESTER

Dorchester's colorful history comprises the fortunes and misfortunes of betrayed Acadians, patriotic Yorkshiremen, Yankee rebels, haughty Loyalists and hard-dealing Irish, who shaped the community.

The resulting hillside village overlooking the broad Tantramar marshlands and Shepody Bay was the commercial, cultural and social hub of Southeastern New Brunswick in the days of sail and the stagecoach.

Some relics of Dorchester's heyday remain. The once stately residence of Sir Pierre Landry - the province's first Acadian Chief Justice- has been restored as has the shiretown's oldest building, the Regency style stone house built in 1813 by John Keillor and which now is the home of Keillor House Museum.

Dorchester, the shiretown of Westmorland County, has been ravaged during the past 30 years. It no longer serves as the "capital" after having been the home of county council, court sittings and the repository of documents for generations. The lone remaining service from those days is the Provincial Jail though even the Income Assistance office is to be closed. Even the senior high school has been moved to Sackville. But the spirit of the community remains undaunted and its 1194 residents consider themselves fortunate to have been sustained for over 100 years by the Correctional Service of Canada.

Because of the mix of backgrounds and its close association with the penal system for more than a century, the village of Dorchester has come to live in harmony with its major employer.

A mentality has evolved in Dorchester which not only accepts the potential hazards of living side-by-side with a federal penitentiary but also embraces its role as the home of such facilities. In addition to the two federal institutions, Dorchester also is the home of a large Provincial Jail.

The recompleted Sackville Memorial Hospital and new medical clinic provide a well trained staff and a full range of health services.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

NOT IN MY BACKYARD

It is noted that some other communities - notably Saint John - has seen its residents rebel against the proposed location of a penitentiary in their area. We have observed many others fight the positioning of half-way houses and other penal-related structures in their cities, towns and villages.

Obviously there is a paranoia about such projects or to be more succinct - the NIMBY syndrome hitting home. Not In My Back Yard is something the residents of Dorchester never consider and proudly proclaim the fact that they provide the home for Atlantic Canada's criminal element.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

DORCHESTER RESIDENTS COOPERATIVE

While it is true that many residents are directly involved with the CSC in Dorchester either as employees or a member of a family associated with the two institutions, there is a general feeling of cooperation and unity.

Relationships have been strong and many employees have served on the village council and various committees within the community. Currently Mayor Ross Monk is a member of the CSC staff, Councillor Ken Trueman is a retired employee and Councillor Gwen Lister is the wife of an employee.

The Village happily provides many services for the two institutions. There is a close working relationship between the village fire department and penitentiary officials while Mayor Monk and his council maintain a close and warm relationship with CSC officials.

There is a feeling of excitement and anticipation in the community - a feeling generated by the possibility of a new facility being built in their midst. They welcome the idea as an extension of the penal system and also see the potential for additional employment.

There is also wider acceptance throughout the region as employees reside over a fairly wide radius.

The lot of the employees must also be considered and while Dorchester offers fairly inexpensive housing, others choose a more upbeat lifestyle. Some choose Sackville where there is a viable and active cultural and social lifestyle while others prefer the city life and reside in Moncton. Both communities offer a wide range of activities and an excellent quality of life although real estate costs are somewhat higher than those in Dorchester.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

DIVERSIFICATION REQUIRED

The South East region of New Brunswick has for far too long been overly dependent on the fishing industry as its economic base. With the withering up of this business it has been necessary to look to diversification and any additional jobs would be highly beneficial. We trust this might be a consideration in any final decision. A few jobs in Dorchester would be significant while the same number in an urban area would be negligible.

It is noted that the unemployment rate for the greater southeast region, including Moncton, was 11 percent in October, 1990. However the figures are not indicative of the rural section as the unemployment rate in Moncton stood at nine percent. Because of the inclusion of Moncton in the statistics, the unemployed of the Dorchester and other communities have been penalized in attempting to secure sufficient work to obtain unemployment insurance benefits.

There is a pool of unemployed people - both male and female - in the immediate area who are eager and willing to accept almost any type of work. While many may not be trained in the skills of security and supervision the very fact they have grown up in the shadow of Dorchester Penitentiary and perhaps in a home where at least one member was an employee should give them an edge when it comes to preparing for such employment.

The community of Dorchester is provided protection by the Sackville detachment RCMP under contract. A major responsibility of the detachment is investigations at the penitentiary, not only with current incidents but in sorting out criminal acts that may have been carried out by inmates prior to their incarceration.

Because of their experience in such investigative procedures the Sackville detachment has a special handle on such procedures which is particularly useful and which may not be available in other communities.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

FOOD LOCALLY PRODUCED

It is understood that the Westmorland Institution, the minimum security unit in Atlantic Canada, has the ability to provide most of the prison system in Canada with potatoes and produces 70 percent of the dairy products that are used by federal penitentiaries in the Atlantic region.

No doubt Westmorland would also be able to supply a women's penitentiary - located in Dorchester - with its dairy and root vegetable requirements as well as its pork, beef, eggs and poultry.

This would offer a considerable economic advantage, especially if transportation costs were not a factor.

And a Dorchester location for a women's prison would permit employees and officials to be in close contact with Atlantic Region officials in Moncton.

There are presently 325 employees at Dorchester Penitentiary and another 95 at Westmorland in addition to others involved in contractual duties. Thus, those employed at a women's prison would have colleagues with similar interests and responsibilities with whom to socialize and have a common interest.

DORCHESTER: SITE FOR A WOMEN'S PRISON

SUMMARY

In summary, we believe we have demonstrated numerous reasons why a new unit to house female offenders in the Atlantic region should be located in Dorchester.

The primary reasons, of course, are location, availability of a wide range of services, an acceptance by the community of such institutions, available serviced land, the presence of an Aboriginal community, teaching hospitals, universities and community colleges and a whole host of community services to support such a facility.

Last but not least is the fact that Dorchester is located in Canada's only bilingual province. The federal government and the Correctional Service of Canada correctly encourage its staff to be fluent in both official languages and these policies appear to be working well in both the Dorchester Penitentiary and Westmorland Institution. The provincial government encourages and actively supports second language training at every level and a bilingual staff would be readily available in the immediate area. This, obviously, would be an added problem if the new prison were to be located in any of the other three provinces in the Atlantic region.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Jean Chrétien, Leader of the Opposition
M. P. - Beauséjour

Collège Communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick
Dieppe

Institut de Memramcook

Mount Allison University

New Brunswick Community College - Moncton

George S. Rideout
M. P. - Moncton

Town of Dieppe

Town of Riverview

Town of Sackville

Town of Shediac

Village of Cap-Pelé

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Village of Dorchester

Village of Port Elgin

Village of Saint-Joseph

HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
OTTAWA, CANADA
K1A 0A6

COPY
COPIE

le 14 janvier 1991

Honorable Pierre Cadieux
Solliciteur général du Canada
Chambre des communes
Edifice de la Confédération
Pièce 307
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

REÇU le
15 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

Monsieur le Ministre,

Service Correctionnel Canada est présentement en train d'étudier différents sites pour la construction d'une prison pour femmes.

Vous n'êtes certainement pas sans savoir que le Village de Dorchester dans le comté de Westmorland au N.B. offrirait un site idéal pour un tel établissement.

Au point de vue géographique, ce village est bien situé, juste au centre de la région, à proximité de facilités de transport desservant toute la région de l'Atlantique.

Déjà les gens de Dorchester savent ce que représente un établissement de ce genre, car déjà le village loge deux établissements du Service Correctionnel du Canada. La communauté s'est toujours associée étroitement avec le Service Correctionnel, le syndrome "Pas dans ma cour", n'existe pas ici.

Je pourrais continuer à énumérer les nombreux avantages pour la Service Correctionnel à s'installer dans ce village, mais je sais qu'une présentation complète vous sera soumise.

C'est avec beaucoup d'enthousiasme que j'appuie les démarches de la Commission Economique du Sud-Est et du Village de Dorchester.

HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
OTTAWA, CANADA
K1A 0A6

Si je pouvais, Monsieur le Ministre, vous fournir plus de renseignements, je m'en ferais un plaisir, je suis à votre disposition.

Veuillez agréer l'expression de mes meilleurs sentiments.

Copie originale signée par Jean Chrétien F.R.

Jean Chrétien
Chef de l'Opposition Officielle
Député (Beauséjour)

Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick
Dieppe
New Brunswick Community College

New Nouveau Brunswick

Le 24 janvier 1991

COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE DU SUD-EST INC.
C.P. 578
144, rue Main
Shédiac, NB
E0A 3G0

A l'attention de: M. Raymond LeBlanc

Monsieur,

Le Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick à Dieppe veut par la présente appuyer l'emplacement de Dorchester pour la nouvelle prison proposée dans ce coin de pays. Dorchester est situé à l'intérieur de la région de service du CCNB-Dieppe et par conséquent pourrait bénéficier des services de formation qu'offre le collège communautaire de Dieppe. En particulier le CCNB-Dieppe serait en mesure d'offrir des formations sur mesure pour cette population par la voie de la formation à Distance aussi bien que par les moyens conventionnels sur place.

J'aimerais par cette même occasion féliciter la population de Dorchester pour leur initiative de monter une telle proposition.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

MICHEL RICHARD
Directeur

REÇU le
28 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

Enseignement supérieur et formation
Advanced Education and Training

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INSTITUT DE MEMRAMCOOK
CENTRE RESIDENTIEL D'EDUCATION PERMANENTE

MEMRAMCOOK INSTITUTE
RESIDENTIAL CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTRE

SAINT-JOSEPH, N.B. E0A 2Y0 TELEPHONE (506) 758-2511

REÇU le
11 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Memramcook Institute, it is my pleasure to express our undaunted support to the South East Region economic commission in their endeavor to obtain the proposed Woman's prison facilities for the Municipality of Dorchester in the Province of New Brunswick.

The Memramcook Institute the only residential adult education centre east of Montreal, and situated approximately fifteen kilometers west of the Maritime penitentiary in Dorchester is quite active in the educational services provided to various prison facilities in the region both within the Federal and provincial jurisdictions.

We not only believe that the location of Dorchester is appropriate because of its existing facilities, but principally by the existing facilities surrounding the Municipality of Dorchester in the fields of Health and Education and the bilingual reality of the Region.

The addition of these facilities in Dorchester would create a much needed economic boost to the region and the Memramcook Institute is prepared to Cooperate in any possible way for the realization of this project.

Yours truly,

Eugène R. LeBlanc
Executive Director

ERL/jb

Information *MountAllison*

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY
SACKVILLE, NEW BRUNSWICK
CANADA E0A 3C0
(506)364-2260

(Communications and Public Affairs)

December 5, 1990

Mr. Raymond T. LeBlanc
Southeast Economic Development Commission
P.O. Box 578
Shediac, New Brunswick
EOA 3GO

REÇU le
10 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

In proposing to the Government of Canada that one of its five correctional institutions for women to be constructed in or near Dorchester, New Brunswick, it might prove useful to the Southeast Economic Development Commission to remind the solicitor-general's office of the obvious benefits of Mount Allison University nearby.

To begin with, it may not be an insignificant matter that Mount Allison has a 136-year history of championing education for women, beginning with the 1854 establishment of the Ladies' College and continuing to the present day and a student body now almost 57 per cent female. The university's teaching staff is 21 per cent female.

More critical is Mount Allison's concern for undergraduates teaching in the arts and sciences and its tendency to deploy some of its best-trained and most experienced faculty members to extramural classrooms. The university's interest in and success with continuing education programs in the existing Dorchester institution is no doubt best demonstrated in the annals of the penitentiary itself but is supported by a long history of serving inmates with credit courses in the humanities and social sciences and with correspondence offerings in various disciplines. Though required by the penitentiary's shift in program priorities a few years ago to suspend the giving of regular degree courses within the walls of the institution, Mount Allison is nevertheless prepared to consider beginning such training anew. Further confirmation of the university's willingness to serve a public beyond its campus is, of course, its present participation in the University-College Entrance Program (UCEP) arranged to prepare native people in Northeastern New Brunswick to gain access to higher education. A total of 26 men and women are at the moment engaged in the acquisition of university entrance qualifications.

Finally, as you are no doubt aware, Mount Allison presents nearby athletic and cultural facilities, the use of which is often negotiated by and for off-campus interests. It strikes me that the

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availability of a swimming pool, gymnasium, playing fields, concert halls, and an art gallery would be welcomed by penologists, planners and administrators of the Canadian corrections system.

Be assured of Mount Allison's continuing interest in the region's economic and social development activities. We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to this proposal.

Sincerely,

Peter MacRae, Director
Communications and Public Affairs

NEW BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Moncton
COLLÈGE COMMUNAUTAIRE DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK

DEPARTMENT OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND TRAINING
MINISTÈRE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR ET DE LA FORMATION

December 27, 1990

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc
South East Economic Commission, Inc.
P.O. Box 578
Main St.
Shediac, NB
EOA 3GO

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

I am pleased to send the following letter on behalf of the New Brunswick Community College - Moncton, in support of your brief to the Solicitor General of Canada for the establishment of a correctional institution for women in Dorchester.

I wish you well as you seek to advance our region in this endeavour.

Yours truly,

Doug Steeves
Vice Principal
Administration

pm

REÇU le
31 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

P.O. Box 2100 Station A, Moncton, N.B. E1C 8H9 Tél. (506) 856-2220, Fax (506) 856-2665

NBCC - MONCTON

GENERAL

The New Brunswick Community College - Moncton has been in continuous operation serving the educational and training needs for the province of New Brunswick since 1946. During these 44 years of service, approximately 85,000 people have received training in a myriad of programs arranging from farm tractor service to Electronics Engineering Technology as well as in such advanced technological areas as Computer Assistant Design and Manufacturing.

We have been pleased at the college to have been involved in training of inmates at both correctional institutions located in Dorchester, New Brunswick. We have provided training in both vocational and academic study to inmates of both the Federal Penitentiary and the Westmorland Institution, as well as having provided some educational services to inmates housed in the Springhill Institution. Our college has been successful in tendering and being awarded contracts for this training and our contract with Correctional Services Canada has been consistently renewed. We have provided this training under the supervision of a long term employee who has served throughout the past eleven years that we have provided training at the institutions. Our college is one of nine points of service offered by the New Brunswick Community College, one of the branches of service of the Department of Advanced Education and Training with our Central Office located in Fredericton. Our Department is able to provide extensive curriculum development and assistance through its central office as well as through the various college branches located throughout the province.

EXTENSION PROGRAMS

Our college is charged with the responsibility on a provincial level for the provision of correspondence courses in subjects that are normally available through the public school system. These courses are available to anyone, including the

inmate population of any institutions. A wide range of courses is available that provide for the attainment of study in various subjects as offered by the public system. This availability of study materials complete with credit exams offers an incentive and an avenue for inmates to pursue advance study, which they may in turn use as prerequisites to even more advance study in our regular technology programs or for university training.

In addition, our college offers a significant range of second language training that could be used for the development of staff for the institutions or for the preparation of inmates for advancement in potential job markets upon their release. The Province of New Brunswick is Canada's only officially bilingual province and our college heartily supports the training of both government employees and the general public and would stand ready to serve inmates who might wish to pursue this type of training as well.

Night school courses are offered on a wide range of subjects ranging from courses that are studied for credit towards the completion of Business Education Programs and courses that are of a general interest nature. Any of these services could be contracted with Correctional Services Canada for provision to the population of any of these institutions.

DAY TIME TRAINING

The Moncton college is involved in the delivery of some 35 regular programs made available to the population of the province and in addition provides a wide range of programs that are of a "non-traditional" nature through contract training. These latter programs have included Non-traditional Careers for Women, Goal Setting and Exploration program, Social Assistance Recipients programs, Career Orientation for Women, Trades Orientation for Women, etc., etc. We have experienced staff ready to deliver these programs on a contract basis to inmates of any institution.

Programs now being delivered by our college under contract

to Correction Services Canada include Literacy training, Adult Basic Education, Basic Training for Skills Development for the inmates in both institutions presently located in Dorchester. In addition, we have over the years provided an extensive array of vocational programs training to the population of these institutions. Our college is interested in negotiating contracts for almost any type of education or training program that would be deemed useful and suitable in the preparation of inmates for re-entry to society upon completion of their incarceration.

CONCLUSION

The New Brunswick Community College - Moncton is experienced in the delivery of educational programs to inmates, by virtue of its involvement with Correction Services Canada in the delivery of both vocational and academic programs during the past eleven years at institutions located in the maritime provinces. We have a staff that is well trained in the particular needs of the inmate population and who are committed to the ongoing development of these populations in preparing them for re-entry to society. We stand ready and willing to serve the needs of inmate populations through contract training with Correction Services in order to facilitate the re-entry of these people to society at large.

Moncton
232 rue St. George Street
E1C 1V9
Tel: (506) 851-2260
Fax: (506) 851-2263

HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

GEORGE S. RIDEOUT, M.P., Député
MONCTON

Ottawa
781 Confederation
K1A 0A6
Tel: (613) 992-8072
Fax: (613) 992-8083

December 17, 1990

Mr. Pierre Cadieux
Solicitor General of Canada
340 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ONT
KIA 0P8

Dear Mr. Cadieux,

Further to the government's very positive decision to construct five regional institution for female inmates, I wanted to make you fully aware of my support for the efforts of the South East Economic Commission to have the correctional institution for women established in Dorchester.

In their brief the Commission outlined a number of compelling arguments in favour of Dorchester as a logical location for the correctional institution. Among the more forceful is the ready pool of bilingual workers, the educational facilities which now have contracts with the Dorchester Penitentiary, the proximity of an aboriginal community as well as hospitals to serve both linguistic communities. Furthermore, the presence of the Dorchester Penitentiary has sensitized the public in the region to what it is to have such a facility in the community.

I would ask that you give serious consideration to the above. Dorchester and the surrounding community provides the essential services and capabilities necessary to house a correctional institution. Many thanks.

Yours very truly,

George S. Rideout, MP
(Moncton)

REÇU le
24 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

Plus qu'une Ville!
Dieppe
More than a Town!

VILLE DE DIEPPE • TOWN OF DIEPPE 333, AVE ACADIE, DIEPPE, NB E1A 1G9 TEL (506) 857-0440

December 19th, 1990

To Whom It May Concern:

The Town of Dieppe in collaboration with the Dieppe Industrial Park Commission supports the South East Economic Commission Inc. and the village of Dorchester in their bid to the Solicitor General of Canada to consider locating a prison for women in Dorchester, New Brunswick.

The brief details clearly the benefits associated with their proposal.

The Village of Dorchester is located only 22 kms from our Municipality. It is close to the Moncton Airport, located in our boundary, to the Trans-Canada Highway and Route 11 to the northern part of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Dorchester is a maximum of 5 hours away from any community within the Maritime Provinces.

Another important aspect is that greater Moncton has services available in both official languages, be it education, recreation, health and professional consultation which would be required by inmates and resource persons of the institution.

We appreciate any consideration given the application from South East Economic Commission Inc. for the Village of Dorchester. A project of this importance will benefit all communities in south east New Brunswick.

Yours truly,

Bill Malenfant

William Malenfant
Mayor of the Town of Dieppe

/lb

Plus qu'une Ville!
Dieppe
More than a Town!

VILLE DE DIEPPE • TOWN OF DIEPPE 333, AVE ACADIE, DIEPPE, NB E1A 1G9 TEL (506) 857-0440

le 19 décembre 1990

A qui de droit,

La ville de Dieppe, en collaboration avec le conseil d'administration du Parc industriel de Dieppe, appuie les efforts de la Commission Economique du Sud-Est Inc. et le village de Dorchester en vu d'obtenir que le Solliciteur Général du Canada considère sérieusement que la prison pour femmes prévue pour l'Atlantique soit établie à Dorchester au Nouveau-Brunswick.

Le bref présenté démontre clairement les divers bénéfices reliés à cette demande.

Le village de Dorchester se situe qu'à 22 kilomètres de notre municipalité, à proximité de l'aéroport de Moncton, situé dans les limites de notre ville, de la route trans-canadienne, de la route 11 en direction nord du Nouveau-Brunswick, de la Nouvelle-Ecosse et de l'Ile du Prince Edward et à 5 heures de toutes les communautés des Provinces Maritimes.

Un autre aspect important à considérer est celui des services offerts dans les deux langues officielles, à Moncton, soit dans les domaines de l'éducation, des loisirs, de la santé ainsi que la consultation professionnelle, lesquels services sont essentiels aux détenus et aux personnes ressources employées par l'institution.

Nous apprécions toute considération apportée à la demande de la Commission Economique du Sud-Est Inc. présentée au nom du village de Dorchester. Un projet d'aussi grande envergure amènera sans aucun doute des bénéfices immenses à toutes les communautés du sud-est du Nouveau-Brunswick.

Le Maire,

Bill Malenfant

William Malenfant

/lb

TOWN OF RIVERVIEW

30 Honour House Court
Riverview, N.B. E1B 3Y9
Telephone: (506) 387-2020

January 15, 1991

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc
Industrial Commissioner
South East Economic Commission Inc.
P.O. Box 578
Main Street
Shediac, N. B.
E0A 3G0

REÇU le
16 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

In response to your letter, dated December 20, 1990, the Town Council of the Town of Riverview has instructed me to contact you and express their support for the initiative that you have taken to secure the location of the women's prison proposed for Atlantic Canada in the Village of Dorchester.

In light of the following factors:

1. the existence of a prison in the area already which has mentally prepared the community for the construction of a second facility;

2. the network of community services, training facilities, psychological and medical treatment services and a wide range of other required resources available in the surrounding communities;

the Riverview Town Council is convinced that the Village of Dorchester is indeed a suitable and logical location. In addition, the South East area of the province would certainly benefit from the economic impetus that would result from the construction and operation of such a facility in the area. Once again, the Town Council would like to clearly state its support for the location of the prison for women for Atlantic Canada in the Village of Dorchester, New Brunswick.

Yours truly,

Krista Dewey

Krista Dewey
Town Clerk

SACKVILLE
NEW BRUNSWICK

POST OFFICE BOX 660
SACKVILLE
NEW BRUNSWICK
CANADA E0A 3C0

TELEPHONE 506 536 0590
FACSIMILE 506 536 3219

REÇU le
21 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

REF. NO. 90-563

December 17, 1990

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc
Industrial Commissioner
South East Economic commission Inc.
P.O. Box 578
Shediac, N. B.
E0A 3G0

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

The Town of Sackville is totally supportive of the efforts of Dorchester to have a new Atlantic Region prison for women located in their community.

Dorchester is the only logical location for such an institution. It is centrally located, making it easily accessible to the residents of not only the three Maritime Provinces but also Newfoundland, as the well serviced Moncton airport is only minutes away.

Unlike other communities, the residents of Dorchester fully accept penitentiaries in their midst after having lived with them for over a century. We have observed the residents of other towns and cities resist establishment of prisons within their midst.

From a cost point of view Dorchester would be the logical site since the Correctional Services of Canada owns over 1500 acres of land and there are at least two natural sites for construction.

Sackville offers a number of resources, including recreational, medical and commercial and provides backup fire protection. Our relationship with both the Village of Dorchester and the penitentiary has been cordial and one of cooperation for many years.

Construction of the women's prison in Dorchester would seem to me to be the only natural thing to do. With the regional psychiatric centre to be located there and with every facility known to man availabe in the area I would heartily recommend and support Dorchester's efforts. It would also contribute to the improvement of our economy which needs a boost at this time.

Where You Belong

continued

I trust the Correctional Service of Canada will consider all aspects of the location of a women's prison in the Atlantic Region very carefully. If this is done I am confident we will find it situated in Dorchester, N. B.

Yours truly,

W. R. Campbell
Mayor

WRC:b
cc: R. Monk
Mayor, Dorchester

Cabinet de la Mairie *The Mayor's Office*

le 17 janvier 1991

M. Bernard LeBlanc, président
Commission Economique du Sud-Est
Casier postal 578
Shediac, Nouveau-Brunswick
E0A 3G0

REÇU le
21 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

OBJET: PRISON POUR FEMMES

Monsieur le président,

Par la présente, nous désirons répondre à votre lettre du 11 décembre 1990 en vous informant que les membres du Conseil municipal de la Ville de Shediac ont adopté unanimement, à leur réunion régulière du conseil, le 14 janvier 1991, une résolution qui supporte l'établissement d'une prison pour femmes dans le village de Dorchester, Nouveau-Brunswick.

Il est très apparent que le Village de Dorchester possède tous les attributs et services nécessaires pour le développement et l'opération d'une telle institution et nous nous joignons à toutes les autres communautés de la région en demandant la considération favorable du Solliciteur Général du Canada dans sa détermination du choix final pour la location du Village de Dorchester.

Veuillez agréer, M. LeBlanc, l'expression de mes salutations distinguées.

Le maire,

Michel C. Léger

Village de Cap-Pelé Inc.

C.P. 159
Cap-Pelé, N.-B.
E0A 1J0

(506) 577-4157/4154

December 14, 1990

M. Raymond LeBlanc, Industrial Commissioner
South Est Economic Commission Inc.
P.O. Box 578
Shédiac, N.-B.
E0A 3G0

RE: Prison for women.

Mr. LeBlanc,

The Cap-Pelé municipal council wishes to express its unconditionnel support for the steps being taken by the municipality of Dorchester to obtain a prison for women which will be built in the near futur.

The council members sees this initiative by the municipality of Dorchester as normal and positive because of their expertise, without precedent in Canada, in the domaine of penal incarceration. Being one of the first community to adopt itself to the presence of a prison in its surrounding the people of Dorchester can still provide beneficial services to the canadian public by accepting another prison.

In support of your work to date, we remain yours truly.

Hector Doiron
Administrator

HD/ll
c.c. Village of Dorchester

REÇU le
18 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

Village de Cap -Pelé Inc.

C.P. 159
Cap-Pelé, N.-B.
EOA 1JO

(506) 577-4157/4154

Le 14 décembre 1990

M. Raymond LeBlanc, Commissaire
Commission Economique du Sud Est Inc.
C.P. 578
Shédiac, N.-B.
EOA 3G0

REF: Prison pour femmes.

Monsieur LeBlanc,

Le conseil municipal du Village de Cap-Pelé désire vous communiquer son support inconditionnel vis-à-vis les démarches de la municipalité de Dorchester d'obtenir une des prisons pour femmes qui seront construites dans un avenir prochain.

Les membres du conseil municipal voient cette initiative de la municipalité de Dorchester comme étant seulement normale et positive, car ils ont une expertise sans précédant au Canada dans le domaine de l'incarcération pénale. Etant l'une des premières communautés à s'adopter à la présence d'une prison dans son milieu, les gens de Dorchester peuvent encore rendre service à la population canadienne en acceptant la présence d'une prison pour femmes.

En vous appuyant dans vos démarches, veuillez agréer Monsieur LeBlanc, l'expression de nos sentiments les meilleurs.

L'administrateur

Hector Doiron

HD/ll
c.c. Village de Dorchester

REÇU le
18 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DORCHESTER, NEW BRUNSWICK
E0A 1MO

November 15, 1990

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc
Commissioner , South East
Economic Commission Inc.

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

SUBJECT: Site Selection Presentation
An Institution To House
Federal Female Offenders

AS I am sure you are aware, the Correctional Service of Canada is proposing to construct an institution for Female Offenders in the Atlantic Region. The Community, Council and Myself believe that there is overwhelming evidence that this institution should be located in the Province of New Brunswick, and, furthermore, we believe that there is irrefutable evidence that would support the construction of this unit in the community of Dorchester.

As Mayor,I am empowering the South East Economic Commission to address the above mentioned subject, on behalf of the Village of Dorchester, by establishing the framework and basic elements, outlining the community's resources and experience in corrections in our quest to have the Atlantic Prison for Women located in Dorchester by establishing and guiding our formal presentation ensuring a detailed bilingual presentation report.

In conclusion, we recognize that different directions must be taken, and a professional presentation is needed towards our fundamental purposes of having the unit located and constructed in our community.

Yours truly,

E. Rose Monk

E. Rose Monk
Mayor, Village of Dorchester

REÇU le
19 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

Village of Port Elgin
Port Elgin, N. B.
Phone 538-2221

Office of Mayor

REÇU le
22 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

Office of Clerk-Treasurer

17 January, 1991

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc, Commissioner
Southeast Economic Commission
1142 Main Street
Shediac, NB E0A 3G0

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

It was passed at the December meeting of the Port Elgin Village Council that the Village would support Dorchester's bid for the construction of a women's prison in their municipality.

Yours truly,

R. Elaine Smith

R. Elaine Smith
Mayor

612 RUE CENTRALE STREET
C.P./P.O. BOX 300
SAINT-JOSEPH, CTÉ WEST, N.-B.
E0A 2Y0

VILLAGE DE SAINT-JOSEPH INC.

TEL (506) 758' 2078

le 16 janvier 1991

La Commission Economique du Sud-Est Inc.
C.P. 578
rue Main
Shédiac, N.-B.
E0A 3G0

REÇU le
22 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

Compétence: M. Raymond LeBlanc
Le Commissaire industriel

Objet: Prison pour Femmes

Le Conseil du Village de Saint-Joseph supporte entièrement les démarches entreprises par la Commission Economique du Sud-Est, au nom du Village de Dorchester, pour la construction/installation/le développement d'une prison pour femmes dans le Sud-Est du Nouveau-Brunswick.

L'Infrastructure, au point de vue social, culturel, économique, éducation et du côté pratique, est déjà en place à ou tout près du Village de Dorchester.

C'est pourquoi le Conseil du Village de Saint-Joseph appuie ce développement, je demeure,

Sincèrement vôtre,

Thérèse G. Gaudet

Thérèse G. Gaudet
Maire

TGG/sjg

RAPPORT DE PRÉSENTATION

JANVIER 1991

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

COMMISSION ECONOMIQUE
DU SUD-EST INC.

RAPPORT DE PRÉSENTATION

JANVIER 1991

Présenté par la Commission économique du Sud-Est à l'instance du Village de Dorchester en janvier 1991.

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DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

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La Commission économique du Sud-Est a été créée en 1980, avec comme principal mandat de promouvoir le développement économique régional tout en favorisant un milieu propice à l'épanouissement de l'esprit d'entreprise.

La commission reçoit l'appui des villes de Shediac et de Sackville, des villages de Saint-Joseph, de Port Elgin, de Dorchester et de Cap-Pelé ainsi que de la province du Nouveau-Brunswick.

Nous sommes persuadés que toute nouvelle installation destinée à loger des détenues dans la région de l'Atlantique devrait être située à Dorchester, et nous sommes heureux de présenter un rapport complet à l'appui d'une telle déclaration.

Le rapport a été financé par la Commission économique du Sud-Est, et un certain nombre de responsables et de particuliers ont été interviewés dans le cadre de la préparation du mémoire pour obtenir leurs réactions. Des personnes politiques, y compris le premier ministre Frank McKenna, des députés provinciaux et fédéraux ainsi que les maires des villes, grandes villes et villages de toute la région n'ont pas hésité à appuyer les efforts visant à favoriser le choix de Dorchester comme emplacement d'une nouvelle installation pour loger la population criminelle féminine.

Nous avons tenté de montrer aux représentants du gouvernement fédéral que Dorchester est l'endroit approprié et nous sommes prêts à défendre tout énoncé contenu dans le rapport.

La direction de la Commission économique du Sud-Est appuie à l'unanimité l'emplacement de Dorchester pour la nouvelle prison proposée, ainsi que la préparation et la présentation du rapport ci-joint.

Des lettres sont incluses avec le rapport pour montrer le degré d'appui que suscite Dorchester, et bon nombre des lettres soulignent les principales raisons pour lesquelles le chef-lieu du comté de Westmorland devrait être choisi pour l'établissement d'une prison régionale destinée aux femmes.

Notre recherche nous porte à conclure que bien peu d'arguments, s'il en existe, iraient à l'encontre du choix de Dorchester comme emplacement de la nouvelle installation proposée.

Par ailleurs, de nombreux avantages sont décrits en détails dans le rapport. En voici quelques points saillants:

Emplacement : Dorchester est le centre géographique des Maritimes, ce qui en fait un endroit où il est facile de se rendre depuis n'importe où en Atlantique.

Frais : Des bien-fonds viabilisés appartiennent déjà au service des pénitenciers. La recherche a montré qu'il y a au moins deux terrains de choix sur lesquels une prison pourrait être érigée.

Soins de santé : Service correctionnel Canada a annoncé que Dorchester deviendra un centre psychiatrique régional d'ici deux ans. La ville

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

SOMMAIRE EXÉCUTIF

de Moncton offre une gamme complète de services médicaux, psychologiques et psychiatriques, tandis que les nouvelles installations de Sackville, soit l'hôpital et la clinique médicale, offrent des soins des plus sophistiqués. On trouve également à Moncton des hôpitaux qui servent les populations francophone et anglophone.

Éducation : Mount Allison University à Sackville entretient depuis longtemps des relations fructueuses avec les pénitenciers de Dorchester. L'Université de Moncton et le collège communautaire de Dieppe donnent un enseignement en français, tandis que le collège communautaire de Moncton offre de la formation en anglais et maintient depuis longtemps des liens avec le pénitencier de Dorchester. De plus, l'Institut de Memramcook abrite les installations de formation du personnel.

Collectivité autochtone : La réserve de Fort Folly est située à la lisière de Dorchester et entretient de bonnes relations avec le village et le pénitencier.

Services communautaires : Il y a déjà plus de 100 bénévoles qui visitent le pénitencier de Dorchester de façon régulière; en outre, le soutien est très répandu, des comités consultatifs de citoyens ayant été établis tant pour Westmorland que pour Dorchester.

Attitude : Les résidents de Dorchester voient d'un bon oeil la présence de pénitenciers parmi eux, contrairement à d'autres localités qui se sont opposées aux tentatives d'en établir un sur leur territoire. La population de Dorchester vit depuis plus d'un siècle avec des prisons et des pénitenciers et elle est parfaitement adaptée à une telle réalité.

Coopération : Le village de Dorchester et SCC travaillent ensemble depuis des années; on peut dire la même chose de toute la région, surtout de Sackville à Moncton.

Nature bilingue : Dorchester est situé dans la seule province bilingue du Canada, et la région immédiate est en mesure de fournir du personnel bilingue. La province encourage de façon active la formation en langue seconde, et le conseil scolaire du district 14, de qui relève Dorchester, offre l'immersion en français depuis la maternelle jusqu'au diplôme d'études secondaires.

La Commission économique du Sud-Est remercie les personnes qui ont aidé à la préparation du présent mémoire ainsi que celles qui ont pris le temps de transmettre renseignements et idées.

Nous prions humblement les décisionnaires d'examiner le présent rapport avec soin avant de faire un choix définitif quant à l'emplacement d'une installation pour détenues dans la région de l'Atlantique.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT LOGIQUE D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES EN ATLANTIQUE

Il est manifestement irrésistible et irréfutable que c'est à Dorchester, au Nouveau-Brunswick, que devrait être situé tout établissement fédéral pour détenues prévu dans la région de l'Atlantique.

Ces preuves sont fondées sur des facteurs sociaux, culturels, économiques, politiques et pratiques, et choisir tout autre emplacement serait, comme dans le cas du pénitencier de Renous, une décision politique strictement partisane ne tenant pour ainsi dire aucun compte des détenues ni du personnel.

Service correctionnel Canada, ou SCC, se propose de construire cinq établissements régionaux pour loger sa population de détenues. Nous félicitons les responsables d'une telle initiative, car le pénitencier de Kingston était source de nombreux problèmes, dont le moindre n'était pas les difficultés logistiques que connaissaient les familles de détenues vivant dans l'ouest du Canada, dans les Maritimes ou à Terre-Neuve.

Des unités régionales pour loger les détenues constitueront une mesure beaucoup plus humanitaire de la part de SCC; en effet, les femmes pourront purger leur peine relativement près de leurs parents, frères, soeurs et enfants. Et cela leur permettra de fonctionner dans un milieu un peu plus familier.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

ABONDANCE DES RESSOURCES

Nous aimerions tout d'abord nous pencher sur la question des ressources minimales, énumérées ci-après, auxquelles il faut pouvoir satisfaire pour accueillir une de ces prisons régionales:

- une université ou un collège,
- une gamme de services de santé mentale,
- un hôpital d'enseignement,
- une collectivité autochtone.

Dorchester se trouve à proximité non pas d'une mais de deux universités autorisées à décerner des diplômes. Mount Allison University, à Sackville, est à 12 km de Dorchester et offre depuis de nombreuses années aux détenus du pénitencier de Dorchester et de l'établissement Westmorland des cours dans le cadre de son programme d'éducation permanente et sur le campus même. L'université offre actuellement des cours de rattrapage aux autochtones pour permettre à ces derniers de s'inscrire à des établissements d'enseignement post secondaire.

L'Université de Moncton est une université francophone située à 25 km de Dorchester. Elle aussi entretient des relations fructueuses avec les établissements pénaux existants de Dorchester.

Il y a en outre un collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick anglophone établi à Moncton et un collège francophone à Dieppe, qui ont tous deux conclu avec le pénitencier de Dorchester des contrats en vertu desquels ils donnent des cours de rattrapage.

L'Institut de Memramcook, situé à 8 km de Dorchester, abrite le centre de formation du personnel de SCC; il offre également de façon continue des programmes de formation en langue seconde.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

CENTRE DE TRAITEMENT RÉGIONAL

En 1993, Dorchester abritera le centre de traitement régional. Le centre comprendra une unité psychiatrique de 50 lits avec un programme d'évaluation, une unité de soins intensifs psychiatriques, une unité de soins pour malades chroniques et une section pour les soins de transition. L'évaluation et le traitement des contrevenants atteints de maladie mentale feront partie du mandat du centre.

Comme il est écrit dans un article sur la recherche en services correctionnelles dans FORUM, vol. 2, n° 3, 1990, le pénitencier de Dorchester est de mieux en mieux équipé pour relever les défis sérieux que pose à la région de l'Atlantique la satisfaction efficace des besoins de contrevenants de catégories spéciales dans les années 1990. Les changements à Dorchester et le centre de traitement psychiatrique joueront un rôle crucial dans la promotion d'activités visant à améliorer la santé mentale et à prévenir les troubles mentaux.

On trouve à Moncton des professionnels qualifiés dans toutes les disciplines de la santé mentale, dont bon nombre comptent des années d'expérience auprès de la population criminelle.

La région offre également un refuge aux femmes battues et maltraitées, soit la maison de transition de Moncton.

Deux grands hôpitaux d'enseignement sont situés à Moncton. La A. J. McMaster School of Nursing est rattachée au Moncton Hospital, le centre de santé anglophone de la ville, tandis que l'Hôpital Docteur Georges L. Dumont assure des services à la collectivité francophone.

Les deux hôpitaux se classent parmi les meilleurs dans la région de l'Atlantique et se trouvent à quelques kilomètres seulement de Dorchester, prêts à servir la population des deux principaux groupes linguistiques.

Dans les années 1930, la bande indienne de Fort Folly a déménagé sa réserve de Beaumont à Dorchester. La bande consiste en une douzaine de familles et est dirigée par un chef et un administrateur de bande. Le groupe est actif dans la collectivité et entretient d'excellentes relations tant avec la population de Dorchester qu'avec le pénitencier. Des négociations sont d'ailleurs en cours pour que le village assure des installations d'eau et d'égout à la réserve.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

CRITERES RELATIFS AU CHOIX DE L'EMPLACEMENT

Service correctionnel Canada applique trois critères principaux au choix d'un emplacement:

- proximité du lieu d'origine de la majorité des femmes,
- accessibilité à des services communautaires pour soutenir les installations,
- frais d'acquisition du terrain.

En ce qui a trait aux trois facteurs en question, nous estimons que l'objectif recherché avec la construction d'unités régionales est de rendre celles-ci plus accessibles aux résidents de chaque région. Construire une telle unité à une extrémité de la région ne ferait qu'aggraver une situation déjà difficile, et la seule solution logique est d'essayer de la situer aussi près que possible du centre géographique de cette région.

Les statistiques indiquent que la majorité des crimes commis par les femmes sont perpétrés dans des centres urbains, mais elles montrent aussi par ailleurs que bon nombre des femmes condamnées ne sont pas originaires de ces centres urbains. En d'autres termes, si l'unité de l'Atlantique était située à Halifax ou à Saint John par exemple, un large pourcentage de familles de la région de l'Atlantique s'en trouveraient pénalisées.

Dorchester est le centre géographique exact des Maritimes. En voiture, le village se trouve à quelque cinq heures de route des localités les plus éloignées, soit Sydney, Yarmouth, Edmundston et Campbellton. Le village se trouve également à environ deux heures et demie de route des principaux centres urbains, soit Halifax, Saint John et Fredericton.

Si l'unité était située à Halifax, il faudrait plus de neuf heures de route à une famille venant du nord du Nouveau-Brunswick pour s'y rendre. Par ailleurs, une unité située à Saint John forcerait les gens des régions éloignées de la Nouvelle-Ecosse à faire un tout aussi long trajet.

En outre, l'aéroport de Moncton se trouve à seulement 22 km de Dorchester, ce qui en fait est plus près que la plupart des aéroports par rapport aux villes qu'ils desservent.

Il est également à noter que Dorchester, situé sur la route 106, récemment améliorée, est facile d'accès. Des travaux sont en cours pour construire une nouvelle Transcanadienne à quatre voies, et il est prévu que Dorchester y aura un accès direct.

Par conséquent, afin de servir toute la population de la région de l'Atlantique, une nouvelle unité régionale pour détenues doit être située dans un endroit central et son emplacement ne doit pas être choisi simplement parce qu'une ville ou une région en particulier semble fournir le plus de détenues à ce moment.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

RÉSEAU DE SERVICES COMMUNAUTAIRES

Au cours du dernier siècle, un vaste réseau de services communautaires s'est bâti pour soutenir le pénitencier de Dorchester et, plus récemment, l'établissement Westmorland.

Des comités consultatifs de citoyens sont en contact avec les deux établissements et travaillent avec les comités de détenus et la direction, tant à titre consultatif que dans un rôle de liaison. Les comités sont composés de gens de milieux divers, qualifiés et consciencieux, qui donnent leur temps et leurs talents de façon bénévole et qui doivent souvent parcourir de longues distances pour assister aux réunions.

Un vaste réseau de bénévoles qui rendent visite aux établissements de façon régulière a été formé. Ces bénévoles aident à soulager le stress que connaissent les détenus et le personnel en fournissant un exutoire grâce à diverses activités récréatives.

Les détenus qui ont le droit de sortir sous supervision profitent d'installations comme la piscine à la Mount Allison University, située à proximité, tandis que d'autres ont accès à diverses activités sportives et culturelles à Moncton, à Sackville et dans les localités avoisinantes.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

EMPLACEMENTS VIABILISÉS DISPONIBLES

Pour ce qui est des frais d'acquisition du terrain, les responsables ne devraient pas chercher plus loin que Dorchester. Deux emplacements de première classe ont été déterminés sur un bien-fonds appartenant déjà à Service correctionnel Canada.

Le premier, situé sur le chemin Woodlawn, a été complètement viabilisé par le village de Dorchester en 1978 à un coût de 65 000 $, ce qui avait été fait sur la recommandation d'experts-conseils après l'annonce de la construction d'un nouveau pénitencier à sécurité maximale à cet endroit.

Par la suite, le pénitencier a plutôt été construit à Renous, et il est revenu au village de payer les coûts d'un tel aménagement.

Il faut également noter que Dorchester est situé sur la route 106 récemment renovée selon les standards requis. Présentement on est à complété une nouvelle route Transcanadienne à l'entrée ouest de la Nouvelle-Ecosse et si une nouvelle institution devait être construite sur l'avenue Woodlawn il est tout à fait apparent qu'un accès direct à la nouvelle route serait érigé.

Il y a un second emplacement qui serait idéal, celui-là le long de la route 106 sur une butte qui avait également été recommandée comme emplacement pour un nouveau pénitencier. Cet emplacement pourrait facilement être pourvu d'installation d'eau et d'égout au moyen des services existants du pénitencier même ou par le village de Dorchester dont les services d'eau et d'égouts passent devant le site proposé.

Il est donc évident qu'un nouvel établissement pour recevoir des contrevenantes dans la région de l'Atlantique devrait être situé à Dorchester, sur un bien-fonds déjà viabilisé et appartenant déjà au gouvernement fédéral. En cette époque de restrictions financières, il semblerait imprudent de même envisager un autre emplacement, surtout là où le prix des terrains peut être exorbitant.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

FEMMES AUTREFOIS DÉTENUES À DORCHESTER

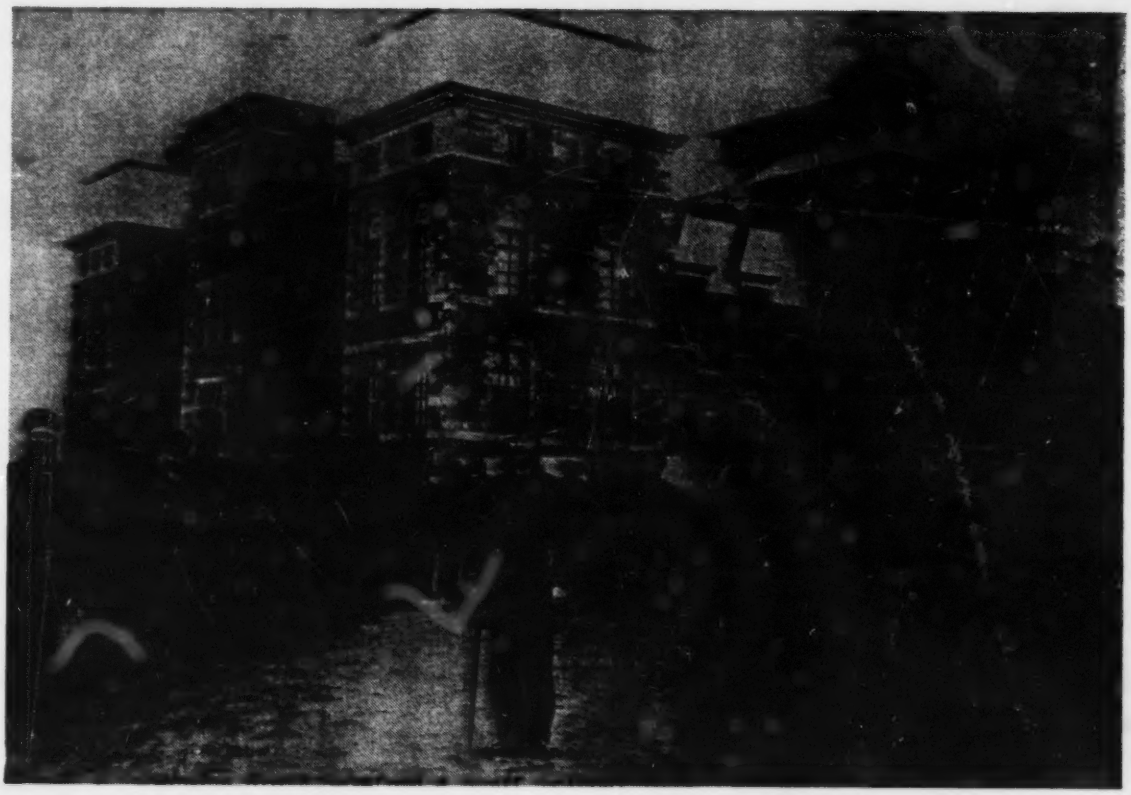
Le terrain du pénitencier de Dorchester a été acheté le 8 juin 1865 de l'honorable Edward Barron Chandler, l'un des pères de la Confédération. Au cours des années, d'autres terres ont été acquises, et la superficie totale s'élève aujourd'hui à environ 1 700 a.

Le pénitencier est fondé le 10 octobre 1878, et, le 14 juillet 1879, 58 détenus masculins et 2 détenus féminins sont transférés du vieux pénitencier de Saint John à leur nouvelle demeure. Deux jours plus tard, 57 hommes détenus au pénitencier de Halifax y sont envoyés, tandis que 6 détenus de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard sont transférés en octobre.

De nouvelles ailes et de nouveaux pavillons cellulaires sont ajoutés à mesure que les besoins se font sentir, et le premier mur, fait de longs rondins trempés dans du goudron, est élevé. Cette palissade est remplacée par un mur de pierres muni de quatre tours en 1912.

Le pénitencier de Dorchester fait actuellement l'objet de rénovations; il deviendra bientôt un établissement plurifonctionnel complet de plusieurs niveaux, abritant une population de 225 détenus. Une fois les rénovations achevées, l'établissement comptera 430 cellules et logera le centre de traitement psychiatrique régional, une unité à sécurité moyenne et une unité pour détenus ayant des besoins spéciaux.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES



DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

LE VILLAGE DE DORCHESTER

L'histoire de Dorchester est pittoresque, et la collectivité a été façonnée par les réussites et les échecs d'Acadiens trahis, de patriotes du Yorkshire, de rebelles yankees, de loyalistes arrogants et d'Irlandais audacieux.

Le village à flanc de colline ainsi créé, qui surplombe les vastes marais de Tantramar et la baie de Shepody, était le centre commercial, culturel et social du sud-est du Nouveau-Brunswick au temps des voiliers et des diligences.

Il reste quelques traces des beaux jours de Dorchester. L'ancienne majestueuse résidence de sir Pierre Landry, le premier juge en chef acadien de la province, a été restaurée, tout comme le plus ancien bâtiment du chef-lieu, une maison de pierre de style Régence construite en 1813 par John Keillor et qui abrite aujourd'hui le musée Keillor House.

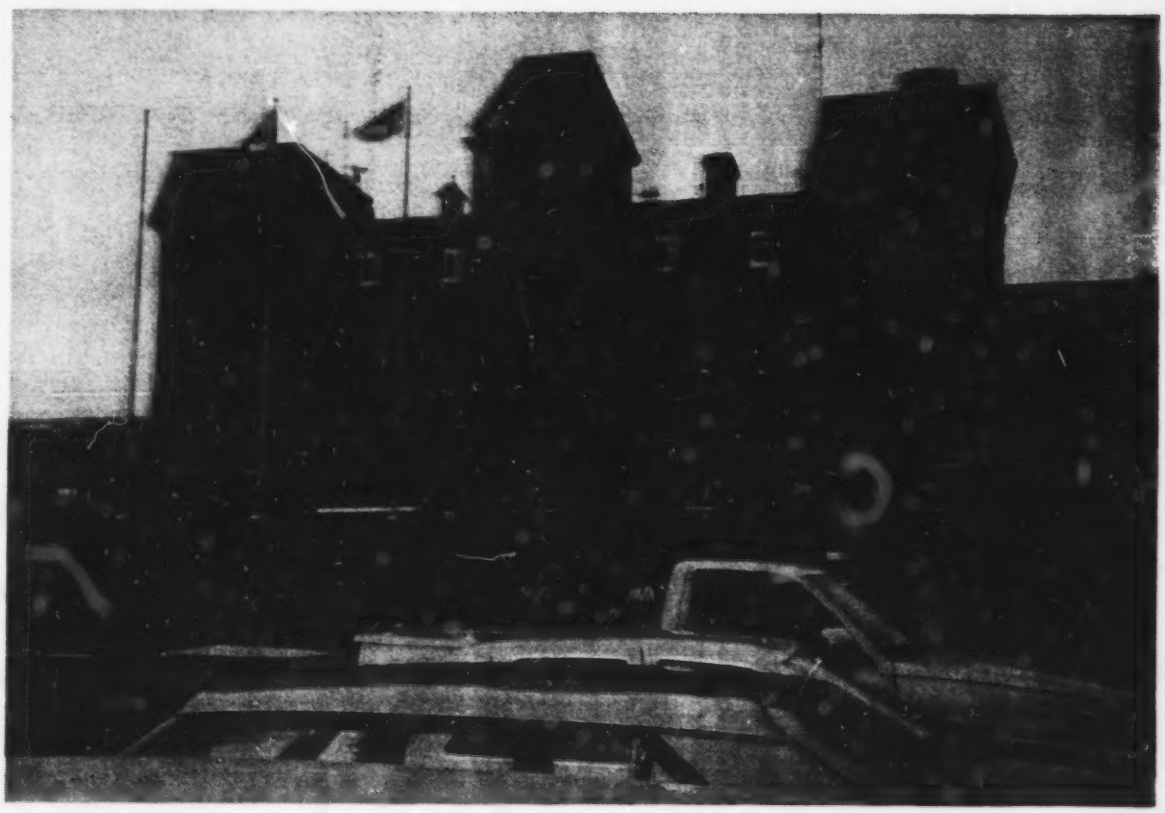
Dorchester, le chef-lieu du comté de Westmorland, a subi de graves revers au cours des 30 dernières années. Il ne sert plus de "capitale", après avoir été le foyer du conseil du comté et des séances de tribunal et le lieu d'archivage de documents depuis des générations. Le seul service qui reste de cette époque est la prison provinciale, qui a été rouverte après plusieurs années d'abandon, et il semble que même le bureau de l'Aide au revenu sera fermé. Même l'école secondaire 2° cycle a été déplacée à Sackville. Le moral de la collectivité demeure néanmoins inébranlable, et les 1 194 résidents et résidentes du village se comptent chanceux d'avoir été soutenus pendant plus d'un siècle par Service correctionnel Canada.

Le mélange d'antécédents et une association étroite avec le système pénal depuis plus d'un siècle font que le village de Dorchester vit aujourd'hui en harmonie avec le principal employeur de la municipalité.

Une certaine mentalité s'est développée à Dorchester: non seulement la population accepte les dangers potentiels que peut présenter le fait de vivre côte à côte avec un pénitencier fédéral, mais elle prend au sérieux son rôle en tant que foyer de telles installations. En plus des deux établissements fédéraux, Dorchester abrite une grande prison provinciale.

Le Memorial Hospital de Sackville, nouvellement réaménagé, et la nouvelle clinique médicale comptent un personnel hautement qualifié et assurent une gamme complète de soins de santé.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES



DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

PAS DANS MA COUR

Il y a lieu de remarquer que d'autres localités — Saint John, notamment — ont vu leurs résidents s'insurger contre l'idée d'installer un pénitencier dans leur région. Nous avons vu à maintes reprises des gens s'opposer à l'installation de maisons de transition et autres structures liées au système pénal dans leurs villes et villages.

Il est évident que de tels projets suscitent un sentiment de paranoïa, ou, en d'autres termes, le syndrome "Pas dans ma cour", syndrome que les résidents et résidentes de Dorchester n'ont jamais manifesté: au contraire, ils acceptent de façon ouverte et sereine le fait qu'ils accueillent parmi eux la population criminelle de la région de l'Atlantique.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

COOPÉRATION DES RÉSIDENTS DE DORCHESTER

Tandis qu'il est vrai que bon nombre de résidents ont des liens directs avec la SCC à Dorchester, soit en tant qu'employés ou parents d'employés des deux établissements, il existe en général un sentiment de coopération et d'unité.

Les relations sont solides, et bien des employés ont siégé au conseil municipal et à divers comités au sein de la collectivité. Le maire actuel, Ross Monk, est un membre du personnel de SCC, le conseiller Ken Trueman en est un employé à la retraite et la conseillère Gwen Lister est l'épouse d'un employé de SCC.

Le village fournit avec joie de nombreux services aux deux établissements. Il y a d'étroites relations de travail entre le service des incendies du village et les responsables du pénitencier, tandis que le maire Monk et son conseil entretiennent des liens étroits et chaleureux avec les responsables de SCC.

La localité est en effervescence; en effet, la possibilité qu'une nouvelle installation soit construite au village suscite un sentiment d'enthousiasme et d'attente. La population se réjouit de l'idée, tant comme prolongement du système pénal que comme source potentielle d'emplois.

Etant donné que les employés habitent dans un rayon assez étendu, c'est toute la région qui accepte bien l'idée d'un établissement du genre.

Le sort des employés aussi doit être pris en considération. Le logement à Dorchester coûte relativement peu cher, mais certains préfèrent un style de vie plus animé. Il y en a qui choisissent d'habiter à Sackville, où la vie culturelle et sociale est bien établie et active, tandis que d'autres préfèrent la vie urbaine de Moncton. Les deux localités offrent une vaste gamme d'activités et une excellente qualité de vie, même si les coûts de l'immobilier y sont quelque peu plus élevés qu'à Dorchester.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

DIVERSIFICATION NÉCESSAIRE

Le sud-est du Nouveau-Brunswick a été trop longtemps excessivement dépendant de l'industrie des pêches comme base économique. Avec le déclin de l'industrie, il est devenu nécessaire d'envisager la diversification, et tout nouvel emploi serait extrêmement profitable. Nous espérons qu'un tel facteur peut jouer dans la décision définitive. Quelques emplois additionnels à Dorchester auraient beaucoup d'importance, tandis que le même nombre de nouveaux emplois dans un centre urbain aurait un effet négligeable.

Soulignons que le taux de chômage pour la grande région du Sud-Est, incluant Moncton, était de 11% en octobre 1990. Ce chiffre n'est toutefois pas représentatif des zones rurales, puisque le taux de chômage à Moncton était de 9%. L'inclusion de Moncton dans les statistiques pénalisent les chômeurs de Dorchester et d'autres localités qui tentent d'obtenir suffisamment de travail pour être admissibles aux prestations d'assurance-chômage.

La région immédiate compte une réserve de chômeurs, tant des hommes que des femmes, qui sont prêts à accepter avec enthousiasme presque n'importe quel type d'emploi. Même si ces gens n'ont pas tous reçu une formation dans le domaine de la sécurité et de la supervision, le fait même qu'ils ont grandi à l'ombre du pénitencier de Dorchester et peut-être dans un foyer où au moins un membre de la famille était un employé de l'établissement devrait les avantager au moment de la préparation des futurs employés à ce genre de travail.

La protection de la localité de Dorchester est assurée à contrat par le détachement de la GRC de Sackville. Une des principales responsabilités du détachement est non seulement de faire enquête au pénitencier en ce qui a trait aux incidents s'y produisant à l'heure actuelle mais aussi de s'occuper des actes criminels qu'auraient pu commettre les détenus avant leur incarcération.

En raison de leur expérience dans ce genre d'activités, le détachement de Sackville est aguerri à de telles méthodes d'enquête, ce qui est particulièrement utile et n'est peut-être pas le cas d'autres localités.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

PRODUCTION LOCALE DE NOURRITURE

L'établissement Westmorland, l'unité à sécurité minimale de la région de l'Atlantique, est en mesure d'approvisionner en pommes de terre la plus grande partie du système pénal canadien et il produit 70% des produits laitiers consommés dans les pénitenciers fédéraux de la région de l'Atlantique.

Il ne fait aucun doute que Westmorland serait également en mesure d'approvisionner de façon adéquate en produits laitiers et en légumes-racines ainsi qu'en porc, en boeuf, en oeufs et en volaille, un pénitencier pour femmes situé à Dorchester.

Cela représenterait un avantage économique certain, surtout si les frais de transports sont évités.

De plus, un établissement situé à Dorchester permettrait aux employés et aux responsables d'être à proximité des responsables de la région de l'Atlantique travaillant à Moncton.

Le pénitencier de Dorchester emploie à l'heure actuelle 325 personnes, et Westmorland en emploie 95, en plus des personnes employées à titre contractuel. Ainsi, les personnes employées à la prison pour femmes auraient comme cercle social des collègues ayant des intérêts et des responsabilités similaires aux leurs.

DORCHESTER: EMPLACEMENT D'UNE PRISON POUR FEMMES

RÉSUMÉ

En résumé, nous croyons avoir mis de l'avant maintes raisons pour lesquelles un nouvel établissement servant à recevoir des contrevenantes dans la région de l'Atlantique devrait être situé à Dorchester.

Les principales raisons sont, de toute évidence, l'emplacement, l'accessibilité à une vaste gamme de services, l'approbation de la collectivité vis-à-vis de tels établissements, la disponibilité d'un terrain viabilisé, la présence d'une collectivité autochtone, des hôpitaux d'enseignement, des universités et deux collèges commaunautaires ainsi qu'un large éventail de services communautaires pour soutenir une telle installation.

Le gouvernement fédéral et le Service correctionnel Canada encourage correctement son personnel à devenir influent dans les deux langues officielles et ces politiques semblent très bien fonctionner soit au pénitencier de Dorchester qu'à l'Institut de Westmorland. Le gouvernement provincial encourage et appuie la formation en langue seconde à tous les niveaux, et il serait facile de trouver du personnel bilingue dans la région immédiate.

Il est évident, cette situation deviendrait un problème de plus si une nouvelle prison était localisée dans aucune des trois autres provinces de l'Atlantique.

LETTRES DE SUPPORT

Jean Chrétien, Chef de l'Opposition officielle
Député - Beauséjour

Collège Communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick
Dieppe

Institut de Memramcook

Mount Allison University

New Brunswick Community College - Moncton

George S. Rideout
Député - Moncton

Village de Cap-Pelé

Village de Dorchester

Village de Port Elgin

Village de Saint-Joseph

LETTRES DE SUPPORT

Ville de Dieppe

Ville de Riverview

Ville de Sackville

Ville de Shediac

HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
OTTAWA, CANADA
K1A 0A6

COPY
COPIE

le 14 janvier 1991

Honorable Pierre Cadieux
Solliciteur général du Canada
Chambre des communes
Edifice de la Confédération
Pièce 307
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A OA6

REÇU le
15 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

Monsieur le Ministre,

Service Correctionnel Canada est présentement en train d'étudier différents sites pour la construction d'une prison pour femmes.

Vous n'êtes certainement pas sans savoir que le Village de Dorchester dans le comté de Westmorland au N.B. offrirait un site idéal pour un tel établissement.

Au point de vue géographique, ce village est bien situé, juste au centre de la région, à proximité de facilités de transport desservant toute la région de l'Atlantique.

Déjà les gens de Dorchester savent ce que représente un établissement de ce genre, car déjà le village loge deux établissements du Service Correctionnel du Canada. La communauté s'est toujours associée étroitement avec le Service Correctionnel, le syndrome "Pas dans ma cour", n'existe pas ici.

Je pourrais continuer à énumérer les nombreux avantages pour la Service Correctionnel à s'installer dans ce village, mais je sais qu'une présentation complète vous sera soumise.

C'est avec beaucoup d'enthousiasme que j'appuie les démarches de la Commission Economique du Sud-Est et du Village de Dorchester.

HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
OTTAWA CANADA
K1A 0A6

Si je pouvais, Monsieur le Ministre, vous fournir plus de renseignements, je m'en ferais un plaisir, je suis à votre disposition.

Veuillez agréer l'expression de mes meilleurs sentiments.

Copie originale signée
par Jean Chrétien FR

Jean Chrétien
Chef de l'Opposition Officielle
Député (Beauséjour)

Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick
Dieppe
New Brunswick Community College

New
Nouveau Brunswick

Le 24 janvier 1991

COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE DU SUD-EST INC.
C.P. 578
144, rue Main
Shédiac, NB
E0A 3G0

A l'attention de: M. Raymond LeBlanc

Monsieur,

Le Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick à Dieppe veut par la présente appuyer l'emplacement de Dorchester pour la nouvelle prison proposée dans ce coin de pays. Dorchester est situé à l'intérieur de la région de service du CCNB-Dieppe et par conséquent pourrait bénéficier des services de formation qu'offre le collège communautaire de Dieppe. En particulier le CCNB-Dieppe serait en mesure d'offrir des formations sur mesure pour cette population par la voie de la formation à Distance aussi bien que par les moyens conventionnels sur place.

J'aimerais par cette même occasion féliciter la population de Dorchester pour leur initiative de monter une telle proposition.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

MICHEL RICHARD
Directeur

REÇU
28 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

Enseignement supérieur et formation
Advanced Education and Training

Téléphone/Tel: (506)856-2200
Télécopieur/Fax: (506)856-2125

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505, rue du Collège
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New Brunswick
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INSTITUT DE MEMRAMCOOK
CENTRE RESIDENTIEL D'EDUCATION PERMANENTE

MEMRAMCOOK INSTITUTE
RESIDENTIAL CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTRE

SAINT-JOSEPH, N.B. E0A 2Y0 TELEPHONE (506) 758-2511

REÇU le
11 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Memramcook Institute, it is my pleasure to express our undaunted support to the South East Region economic commission in their endeavor to obtain the proposed Woman's prison facilities for the Municipality of Dorchester in the Province of New Brunswick.

The Memramcook Institute the only residential adult education centre east of Montreal, and situated approximately fifteen kilometers west of the Maritime penitentiary in Dorchester is quite active in the educational services provided to various prison facilities in the region both within the Federal and provincial jurisdictions.

We not only believe that the location of Dorchester is appropriate because of its existing facilities, but principally by the existing facilities surrounding the Municipality of Dorchester in the fields of Health and Education and the bilingual reality of the Region.

The addition of these facilities in Dorchester would create a much needed economic boost to the region and the Memramcook Institute is prepared to Cooperate in any possible way for the realization of this project.

Yours truly,

Eugène R. LeBlanc
Executive Director

ERL/jb

Information *Mount Allison*

Mount Allison University
Sackville, New Brunswick
Canada E0A 3C0
(506)364-2260

(Communications and Public Affairs)

December 5, 1990

Mr. Raymond T. LeBlanc
Southeast Economic Development Commission
P.O. Box 578
Shediac, New Brunswick
EOA 3GO

REÇU le
10 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

In proposing to the Government of Canada that one of its five correctional institutions for women to be constructed in or near Dorchester, New Brunswick, it might prove useful to the Southeast Economic Development Commission to remind the solicitor-general's office of the obvious benefits of Mount Allison University nearby.

To begin with, it may not be an insignificant matter that Mount Allison has a 136-year history of championing education for women, beginning with the 1854 establishment of the Ladies' College and continuing to the present day and a student body now almost 57 per cent female. The university's teaching staff is 21 per cent female.

More critical is Mount Allison's concern for undergraduates teaching in the arts and sciences and its tendency to deploy some of its best-trained and most experienced faculty members to extramural classrooms. The university's interest in and success with continuing education programs in the existing Dorchester institution is no doubt best demonstrated in the annals of the penitentiary itself but is supported by a long history of serving inmates with credit courses in the humanities and social sciences and with correspondence offerings in various disciplines. Though required by the penitentiary's shift in program priorities a few years ago to suspend the giving of regular degree courses within the walls of the institution, Mount Allison is nevertheless prepared to consider beginning such training anew. Further confirmation of the university's willingness to serve a public beyond its campus is, of course, its present participation in the University-College Entrance Program (UCEP) arranged to prepare native people in Northeastern New Brunswick to gain access to higher education. A total of 26 men and women are at the moment engaged in the acquisition of university entrance qualifications.

Finally, as you are no doubt aware, Mount Allison presents nearby athletic and cultural facilities, the use of which is often negotiated by and for off-campus interests. It strikes me that the

..... 2

availability of a swimming pool, gymnasium, playing fields, concert halls, and an art gallery would be welcomed by penologists, planners and administrators of the Canadian corrections system.

Be assured of Mount Allison's continuing interest in the region's economic and social development activities. We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to this proposal.

Sincerely,

Peter MacRae, Director
Communications and Public Affairs

NEW BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Moncton
COLLÈGE COMMUNAUTAIRE DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK

DEPARTMENT OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND TRAINING
MINISTÈRE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR ET DE LA FORMATION

December 27, 1990

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc
South East Economic Commission, Inc.
P.O. Box 578
Main St.
Shediac, NB
EOA 3GO

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

I am pleased to send the following letter on behalf of the New Brunswick Community College - Moncton, in support of your brief to the Solicitor General of Canada for the establishment of a correctional institution for women in Dorchester.

I wish you well as you seek to advance our region in this endeavour.

Yours truly,

Doug Steeves
Vice Principal
Administration

pm

REÇU le
31 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

P.O. Box 2100 Station A, Moncton, N.B. E1C 8H9 Tél. (506) 856-2220, Fax (506) 856-2665

NBCC - MONCTON

GENERAL

The New Brunswick Community College - Moncton has been in continuous operation serving the educational and training needs for the province of New Brunswick since 1946. During these 44 years of service, approximately 85,000 people have received training in a myriad of programs arranging from farm tractor service to Electronics Engineering Technology as well as in such advanced technological areas as Computer Assistant Design and Manufacturing.

We have been pleased at the college to have been involved in training of inmates at both correctional institutions located in Dorchester, New Brunswick. We have provided training in both vocational and academic study to inmates of both the Federal Penitentiary and the Westmorland Institution, as well as having provided some educational services to inmates housed in the Springhill Institution. Our college has been successful in tendering and being awarded contracts for this training and our contract with Correctional Services Canada has been consistently renewed. We have provided this training under the supervision of a long term employee who has served throughout the past eleven years that we have provided training at the institutions. Our college is one of nine points of service offered by the New Brunswick Community College, one of the branches of service of the Department of Advanced Education and Training with our Central Office located in Fredericton. Our Department is able to provide extensive curriculum development and assistance through its central office as well as through the various college branches located throughout the province.

EXTENSION PROGRAMS

Our college is charged with the responsibility on a provincial level for the provision of correspondence courses in subjects that are normally available through the public school system. These courses are available to anyone, including the

inmate population of any institutions. A wide range of courses is available that provide for the attainment of study in various subjects as offered by the public system. This availability of study materials complete with credit exams offers an incentive and an avenue for inmates to pursue advance study, which they may in turn use as prerequisites to even more advance study in our regular technology programs or for university training.

In addition, our college offers a significant range of second language training that could be used for the development of staff for the institutions or for the preparation of inmates for advancement in potential job markets upon their release. The Province of New Brunswick is Canada's only officially bilingual province and our college heartily supports the training of both government employees and the general public and would stand ready to serve inmates who might wish to pursue this type of training as well.

Night school courses are offered on a wide range of subjects ranging from courses that are studied for credit towards the completion of Business Education Programs and courses that are of a general interest nature. Any of these services could be contracted with Correctional Services Canada for provision to the population of any of these institutions.

DAY TIME TRAINING

The Moncton college is involved in the delivery of some 35 regular programs made available to the population of the province and in addition provides a wide range of programs that are of a "non-traditional" nature through contract training. These latter programs have included Non-traditional Careers for Women, Goal Setting and Exploration program, Social Assistance Recipients programs, Career Orientation for Women, Trades Orientation for Women, etc., etc. We have experienced staff ready to deliver these programs on a contract basis to inmates of any institution.

Programs now being delivered by our college under contract

to Correction Services Canada include Literacy training, Adult Basic Education, Basic Training for Skills Development for the inmates in both institutions presently located in Dorchester. In addition, we have over the years provided an extensive array of vocational programs training to the population of these institutions. Our college is interested in negotiating contracts for almost any type of education or training program that would be deemed useful and suitable in the preparation of inmates for re-entry to society upon completion of their incarceration.

CONCLUSION

The New Brunswick Community College - Moncton is experienced in the delivery of educational programs to inmates, by virtue of its involvement with Correction Services Canada in the delivery of both vocational and academic programs during the past eleven years at institutions located in the maritime provinces. We have a staff that is well trained in the particular needs of the inmate population and who are committed to the ongoing development of these populations in preparing them for re-entry to society. We stand ready and willing to serve the needs of inmate populations through contract training with Correction Services in order to facilitate the re-entry of these people to society at large.

Moncton
232 rue St. George Street
E1C 1V9
Tel (506) 851-2260
Fax (506) 851-2263

Ottawa
781 Confederation
K1A 0A6
Tel (613) 992-8072
Fax (613) 992-8083

HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

GEORGE S. RIDEOUT, M.P. Député
MONCTON

December 17, 1990

Mr. Pierre Cadieux
Solicitor General of Canada
340 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ONT
K1A 0P8

Dear Mr. Cadieux,

Further to the government's very positive decision to construct five regional institution for female inmates, I wanted to make you fully aware of my support for the efforts of the South East Economic Commission to have the correctional institution for women established in Dorchester.

In their brief the Commission outlined a number of compelling arguments in favour of Dorchester as a logical location for the correctional institution. Among the more forceful is the ready pool of bilingual workers, the educational facilities which now have contracts with the Dorchester Penitentiary, the proximity of an aboriginal community as well as hospitals to serve both linguistic communities. Furthermore, the presence of the Dorchester Penitentiary has sensitized the public in the region to what it is to have such a facility in the community.

I would ask that you give serious consideration to the above. Dorchester and the surrounding community provides the essential services and capabilities necessary to house a correctional institution. Many thanks.

Yours very truly,

George S. Rideout, MP
(Moncton)

REÇU le
24 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

Plus qu'une Ville!
Dieppe
More than a Town!

VILLE DE DIEPPE • TOWN OF DIEPPE 333, AVE ACADIE, DIEPPE, NB E1A 1G9 TEL (506) 857-0440

December 19th, 1990

To Whom It May Concern:

The Town of Dieppe in collaboration with the Dieppe Industrial Park Commission supports the South East Economic Commission Inc. and the village of Dorchester in their bid to the Solicitor General of Canada to consider locating a prison for women in Dorchester, New Brunswick.

The brief details clearly the benefits associated with their proposal.

The Village of Dorchester is located only 22 kms from our Municipality. It is close to the Moncton Airport, located in our boundary, to the Trans-Canada Highway and Route 11 to the northern part of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Dorchester is a maximum of 5 hours away from any community within the Maritime Provinces.

Another important aspect is that greater Moncton has services available in both official languages, be it education, recreation, health and professional consultation which would be required by inmates and resource persons of the institution.

We appreciate any consideration given the application from South East Economic Commission Inc. for the Village of Dorchester. A project of this importance will benefit all communities in south east New Brunswick.

Yours truly,

Bill Malenfant

William Malenfant
Mayor of the Town of Dieppe

/lb

Plus qu'une Ville!
Dieppe
More than a Town!

VILLE DE DIEPPE • TOWN OF DIEPPE 333, AVE ACADIE, DIEPPE, NB E1A 1G9 TEL (506) 857-0440

le 19 décembre 1990

A qui de droit,

La ville de Dieppe, en collaboration avec le conseil d'administration du Parc industriel de Dieppe, appuie les efforts de la Commission Economique du Sud-Est Inc. et le village de Dorchester en vu d'obtenir que le Solliciteur Général du Canada considère sérieusement que la prison pour femmes prévue pour l'Atlantique soit établie à Dorchester au Nouveau-Brunswick.

Le bref présenté démontre clairement les divers bénéfices reliés à cette demande.

Le village de Dorchester se situe qu'à 22 kilomètres de notre municipalité, à proximité de l'aéroport de Moncton, situé dans les limites de notre ville, de la route trans-canadienne, de la route 11 en direction nord du Nouveau-Brunswick, de la Nouvelle-Ecosse et de l'Ile du Prince Edward et à 5 heures de toutes les communautés des Provinces Maritimes.

Un autre aspect important à considérer est celui des services offerts dans les deux langues officielles, à Moncton, soit dans les domaines de l'éducation, des loisirs, de la santé ainsi que la consultation professionnelle, lesquels services sont essentiels aux détenus et aux personnes ressources employées par l'institution.

Nous apprécions toute considération apportée à la demande de la Commission Economique du Sud-Est Inc. présentée au nom du village de Dorchester. Un projet d'aussi grande envergure amènera sans aucun doute des bénéfices immenses à toutes les communautés du sud-est du Nouveau-Brunswick.

Le Maire,

William Malenfant

/lb

TOWN OF RIVERVIEW

30 Honour House Court
Riverview, N.B. E1B 3Y9
Telephone: (506) 387-2020

January 15, 1991

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc
Industrial Commissioner
South East Economic Commission Inc.
P.O. Box 578
Main Street
Shediac, N. B.
E0A 3G0

REÇU le
15 JAN 1991
Rép.....

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

In response to your letter, dated December 20, 1990, the Town Council of the Town of Riverview has instructed me to contact you and express their support for the initiative that you have taken to secure the location of the women's prison proposed for Atlantic Canada in the Village of Dorchester.

In light of the following factors:

1. the existence of a prison in the area already which has mentally prepared the community for the construction of a second facility;

2. the network of community services, training facilities, psychological and medical treatment services and a wide range of other required resources available in the surrounding communities;

the Riverview Town Council is convinced that the Village of Dorchester is indeed a suitable and logical location. In addition, the South East area of the province would certainly benefit from the economic impetus that would result from the construction and operation of such a facility in the area. Once again, the Town Council would like to clearly state its support for the location of the prison for women for Atlantic Canada in the Village of Dorchester, New Brunswick.

Yours truly,

Krista Dewey

Krista Dewey
Town Clerk

SACKVILLE
NEW BRUNSWICK

POST OFFICE BOX 660
SACKVILLE
NEW BRUNSWICK
CANADA E0A 3C0

TELEPHONE 506 536 0590
FACSIMILE 506 536 3219

REÇU le
21 DEC. 1990
Rép.....

REF. NO. 90-563

December 17, 1990

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc
Industrial Commissioner
South East Economic commission Inc.
P.O. Box 578
Shediac, N. B.
E0A 3G0

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

The Town of Sackville is totally supportive of the efforts of Dorchester to have a new Atlantic Region prison for women located in their community.

Dorchester is the only logical location for such an institution. It is centrally located, making it easily accessible to the residents of not only the three Maritime Provinces but also Newfoundland, as the well serviced Moncton airport is only minutes away.

Unlike other communities, the residents of Dorchester fully accept penitentiaries in their midst after having lived with them for over a century. We have observed the residents of other towns and cities resist establishment of prisons within their midst.

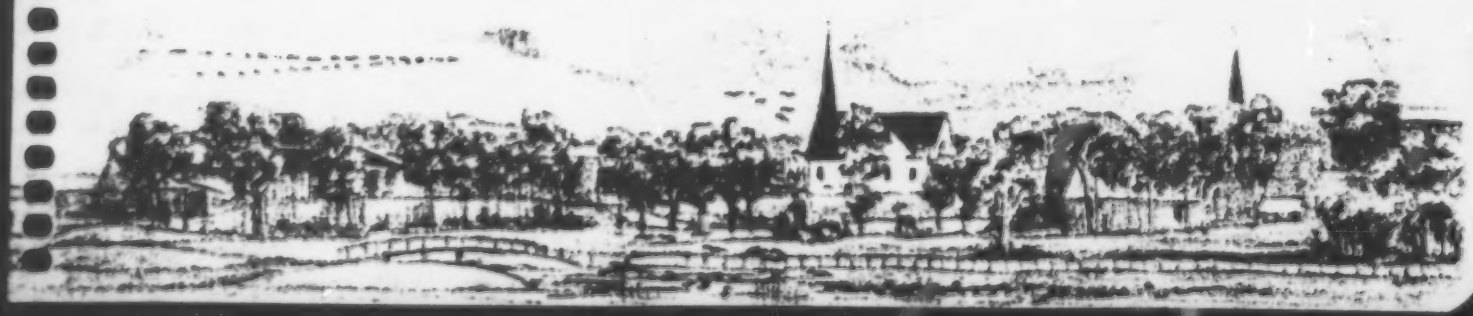
From a cost point of view Dorchester would be the logical site since the Correctional Services of Canada owns over 1500 acres of land and there are at least two natural sites for construction.

Sackville offers a number of resources, including recreational, medical and commercial and provides backup fire protection. Our relationship with both the Village of Dorchester and the penitentiary has been cordial and one of cooperation for many years.

Construction of the women's prison in Dorchester would seem to me to be the only natural thing to do. With the regional psychiatric centre to be located there and with every facility known to man availabe in the area I would heartily recommend and support Dorchester's efforts. It would also contribute to the improvement of our economy which needs a boost at this time.

Where You Belong

continued



I trust the Correctional Service of Canada will consider all aspects of the location of a women's prison in the Atlantic Region very carefully. If this is done I am confident we will find it situated in Dorchester, N. B.

Yours truly,

W. R. Campbell
Mayor

WRC:b
cc: R. Monk
Mayor, Dorchester

Cabinet de la Mairie *The Mayor's Office*

le 17 janvier 1991

M. Bernard LeBlanc, président
Commission Economique du Sud-Est
Casier postal 578
Shediac, Nouveau-Brunswick
E0A 3G0

REÇU le
21 JAN. 1991
Rép.....

OBJET: PRISON POUR FEMMES

Monsieur le président,

Par la présente, nous désirons répondre à votre lettre du 11 décembre 1990 en vous informant que les membres du Conseil municipal de la Ville de Shediac ont adopté unanimement, à leur réunion régulière du conseil, le 14 janvier 1991, une résolution qui supporte l'établissement d'une prison pour femmes dans le village de Dorchester, Nouveau-Brunswick.

Il est très apparent que le Village de Dorchester possède tous les attributs et services nécessaires pour le développement et l'opération d'une telle institution et nous nous joignons à toutes les autres communautés de la région en demandant la considération favorable du Solliciteur Général du Canada dans sa détermination du choix final pour la location du Village de Dorchester.

Veuillez agréer, M. LeBlanc, l'expression de mes salutations distinguées.

Le maire,

Michel C. Léger

Village de Cap -Pelé Inc.

C.P. 159
Cap-Pelé, N.-B.
E0A 1J0

(506) 577-4157/4154

December 14, 1990

M. Raymond LeBlanc, Industrial Commissioner
South Est Economic Commission Inc.
P.O. Box 578
Shédiac, N.-B.
EOA 3G0

RE: Prison for women.

Mr. LeBlanc,

The Cap-Pelé municipal council wishes to express its unconditionnel support for the steps being taken by the municipality of Dorchester to obtain a prison for women which will be built in the near futur.

The council members sees this initiative by the municipality of Dorchester as normal and positive because of their expertise, without precedent in Canada, in the domaine of penal incarceration. Being one of the first community to adopt itself to the presence of a prison in its surrounding the people of Dorchester can still provide beneficial services to the canadian public by accepting another prison.

In support of your work to date, we remain yours truly.

Hector Doiron
Administrator

HD/ll
c.c. Village of Dorchester

REÇU le
18 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

Village de Cap-Pelé Inc.

C.P. 159
Cap-Pelé, N.-B.
E0A 1J0

(506) 577-4157/4154

Le 14 décembre 1990

M. Raymond LeBlanc, Commissaire
Commission Economique du Sud Est Inc.
C.P. 578
Shédiac, N.-B.
E0A 3G0

REF: Prison pour femmes.

Monsieur LeBlanc,

Le conseil municipal du Village de Cap-Pelé désire vous communiquer son support inconditionnel vis-à-vis les démarches de la municipalité de Dorchester d'obtenir une des prisons pour femmes qui seront construites dans un avenir prochain.

Les membres du conseil municipal voient cette initiative de la municipalité de Dorchester comme étant seulement normale et positive, car ils ont une expertise sans précédant au Canada dans le domaine de l'incarcération pénale. Etant l'une des premières communautés à s'adopter à la présence d'une prison dans son milieu, les gens de Dorchester peuvent encore rendre service à la population canadienne en acceptant la présence d'une prison pour femmes.

En vous appuyant dans vos démarches, veuillez agréer Monsieur LeBlanc, l'expression de nos sentiments les meilleurs.

L'administrateur

Hector Doiron

HD/ll
c.c. Village de Dorchester

REÇU le
18 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DORCHESTER, NEW BRUNSWICK
E0A 1MO

November 15, 1990

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc
Commissioner , South East
Economic Commission Inc.

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

SUBJECT: Site Selection Presentation
An Institution To House
Federal Female Offenders

AS I am sure you are aware, the Correctional Service of Canada is proposing to construct an institution for Female Offenders in the Atlantic Region. The Community, Council and Myself believe that there is overwhelming evidence that this institution should be located in the Province of New Brunswick, and, furthermore, we believe that there is irrefutable evidence that would support the construction of this unit in the community of Dorchester.

As Mayor,I am empowering the South East Economic Commission to address the above mentioned subject, on behalf of the Village of Dorchester, by establishing the framework and basic elements, outlining the community's resources and experience in corrections in our quest to have the Atlantic Prison for Women located in Dorchester by establishing and guiding our formal presentation ensuring a detailed bilingual presentation report.

In conclusion, we recognize that different directions must be taken, and a professional presentation is needed towards our fundamental purposes of having the unit located and constructed in our community.

Yours truly,

E. Ross Monk
Mayor, Village of Dorchester

REÇU le
19 DEC. 1990
Rép:.....

Village of Port Elgin
Port Elgin, N. B.
Phone 538-2221

Office of Mayor

REÇU le
22 JAN. 1991
Rép:.....

Office of Clerk-Treasurer

17 January, 1991

Mr. Raymond LeBlanc, Commissioner
Southeast Economic Commission
1142 Main Street
Shediac, NB E0A 3G0

Dear Mr. LeBlanc:

It was passed at the December meeting of the Port Elgin Village Council that the Village would support Dorchester's bid for the construction of a women's prison in their municipality.

Yours truly,

R. Elaine Smith

R. Elaine Smith
Mayor